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TRENDS

ASSOCIATION
OF AMERICAN
RAILROADS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, September 3, 1987 -- Freight traffic carried on major U.S. railroads during the week ended August 29 totaled an estimated 19.3 billion ton-miles, 10.7 percent above the corresponding week of 1986, the Association of American Railroads reported today.

Cumulative volume for the first 35 weeks of 1987 was an estimated 608.7 billion ton-miles carried, up 4.1 percent from the comparable period of last year.

Carloadings originated in the week ended August 29 totaled 425,765, up 8.6 percent from the corresponding week of last year, and 0.5 percent above the preceding week. Compared with last year, carloadings originated were up 6.0 percent in the East and up 11.6 percent in the West.

Compared with the corresponding week last year, 13 of the 21 major commodity groups increased. Grain showed a gain of 7,791 cars loaded (33.6 percent) and coal increased by 8,912 cars (7.7 percent). Fourteen of the 21 commodity groups increased from the preceding week.

Piggyback

The AAR reported that piggyback freight traffic on major railroads for the week ended August 22 totaled 100,266 trailers and/or containers, 0.8 percent above last year.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first 34 weeks of the year was 3,296,505 trailers and/or containers, up 3.3 percent from 1986.

(more)

Following are carloadings of major railroads, by commodity groups, for the week ended 8/29/87:

	Loadings in Week ended August 29, 1987		Change from Corresponding Week 1986			Change from Preceding Week	
	Cars		Cars	Percent		Cars	Percent
Grain	30,945	I	7,791	33.6	D	862	2.7
Other farm products	2,682	D	34	1.3	I	279	11.6
Metallic ores	18,128	I	2,455	15.7	D	418	2.3
Coal	125,023	I	8,912	7.7	D	2,132	1.7
Crushed stone, gravel and sand	17,229	I	2,147	14.2	I	315	1.9
Nonmetallic minerals	10,061	I	2,111	26.6	I	260	2.7
Grain mill products	10,394	D	157	1.5	D	342	3.2
Food and kindred products	11,247	I	417	3.9	I	113	1.0
Primary forest products	10,698	I	368	3.6	D	104	1.0
Lumber and wood products except furniture	8,822	I	418	5.0	I	406	4.8
Pulp, paper and allied products	12,628	D	220	1.7	I	615	5.1
Chemicals and allied products	25,762	D	238	0.9	D	218	0.8
Petroleum products	4,973	D	202	3.9	I	69	1.4
Stone, clay and glass products	11,213	I	264	2.4	D	197	1.7
Coke	5,694	I	1,901	50.1	I	689	13.8
Metals and products	9,728	I	1,916	24.5	I	330	3.5
Motor vehicles and equipment	16,908	D	2,242	11.7	I	1,356	8.7
Waste and scrap materials	9,088	I	897	11.0	I	207	2.3
Forwarder and shipper association traffic	3,239	D	445	12.1	I	134	4.3
All other carloads	81,211	I	7,776	10.6	I	1,713	2.2
LCL traffic	92	D	7	7.1	I	15	19.5
Total Cars Loaded	425,765	I	33,828	8.6	I	2,228	0.5
Corresponding week of 1986	391,937						

	1987	1986	% Change
Total Cars Loaded (35 weeks)	13,596,405	13,143,699	I 3.4
Estimated revenue ton-miles (in billions):			
34 Weeks ended August 22	589.3	567.3	I 3.9
Week ended August 29	19.3	17.5	I 10.7
35 Weeks cumulative	608.7	584.8	I 4.1

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